Study Guide – HCC - GOVT 2306  
Test Two  
  
The test covers chapters 8, 9, 10, and 11  
  
Written Question  
  
Each is worth 15 points – please wrote at least 150 words for each.  
  
1 – Give me a rough draft of your 1000 word paper. I know this really isn’t a question, but please do it anyway.  
  
2 – Social Responsibility Assessment:   
  
Texas - as you have likely figured out - is a different place. That's part of what we have covered over the semester. Given some of the stories that I have posted over time, and what we have covered that points out the way that the state is different politically than the rest of the nation, discuss how Texas' attitudes about social responsibility vary from other parts of the country.   
  
What does the typical Texan think you are responsible for? What are you not responsible for? Find examples.  
  
Here are questions that should help you prepare for the 50 multiple choice questions you will be given next Wednesday the 13th. Please remember to bring a scantron. Remember to also review the quiz questions and key terms.   
  
- Know the basic constitutional design of the Texas executive and judicial branches.  
- What factors empower and weaken constitutional offices in the state?  
- What are the components of the plural executive?   
- What is the basic design of the Texas judiciary?  
- What are the responsibilities of the constitutional offices?  
- What are trials and appeals?  
- What is civil and criminal law?  
- What are the pros and cons of electing judges in Texas?   
- Know the difference between common, statutory and constitutional law.  
- Be familiar with due process.  
- What is the adversary system?   
- What is a felony? What is a misdemeanor?  
- What is a municipal government? A county? A special district?   
- What is a creature of the state?   
- Be familiar with the basic ways cities govern themselves.  
- What is a mayor? City Manager? City Council?   
- What is the structure of county governments?  
- Be able describe the basic features of elections in cities and counties.  
- What are the job descriptions of county judges? Sheriffs? County Clerks?  
- What are the pros and cons of special district governments?   
- What powers – formal and informal - does the governor have over the Texas government?  
- What influence does the governor have over the legislature?   
- How can the governor influence the composition of legislation?  
- Who – or what - is in charge of the Texas bureaucracy?  
- What is the burden of proof for civil and criminal cases?  
- What is a municipal court?   
- What are the basic facts concerning the death penalty in Texas?  
- What is a grand jury? What is a trial jury?   
- What are the basic feature of the criminal justice system in Texas?   
- What are the basic steps from searches to sentencing?   
- How does the US and Texas Bills of Rights impact the due process system?  
- What is the long ballot?  
- Know the most important positions in municipal and county governments.  
- How do local governments collect revenue? What taxes do they tend to use?  
- What are the pros and cons of at-large election systems?  
- What is a city charter? What does it do?  
- What grants counties their authority to govern? What can counties do and not do?  
- What is extra territorial jurisdiction? What does it allow cities to do?  
- What is a city user fee?  
- What issues surround local government’s use of lobbyists?   
- What are the pros and cons of term limits?   
- What influence do political parties have on local governments?   
- What is general law city? A home rule city?   
- What limits exist on the powers of each?